University of Sheffield

Beliefs and Values of Jehovah's Witnesses

Dear Respondent,

We would like to invite you to take part in an important survey of the beliefs and practices of Jehovah's Witnesses around the world, your lives as worshippers and citizens, and the quality of life that you experience.

The survey has been designed by a panel of international experts in religion, in consultation with experts from the Office of Public Information at the World Headquarters of Jehovah's Witnesses.

We would like to find out what members of the Jehovah's Witness community worldwide find important in their spiritual lives, as well as how you feel about major moral and social questions. We would like to learn about the experiences of Witnesses in different countries, and how Witnesses throughout the world manage their everyday lives.

This is to help us to better understand the needs and priorities of the Jehovah's Witness community across the world.

Next

Beliefs and Values of Jehovah's Witnesses

The survey has been reviewed by the University of Sheffield's Faculty of Social Sciences Ethics Review Panel to ensure that questions are reasonable, and that the study considers participants' needs.

This survey is **voluntary**. You do not have to complete the survey if you would prefer not. There are no right or wrong answers – just tell us what you think.

The survey is **anonymous**, unless you choose to share your email address.

Prev Next

Beliefs and Values of Jehovah's Witnesses

Any details which can identify you will be removed from your answers as soon as possible after you complete the survey. Your survey answers will be combined with the answers from all other participants, and used for social research purposes only.

We will also invite you to share your email address so that we can contact you in the future for any follow-up study that may be planned in future. However, you do not have to share personal data such as email addresses if you do not wish to do so. If you do choose to share your email address, it will be held for **no longer than 24 months** by the University of Sheffield, from the point that we access the responses from the survey.

Beliefs and Values of Jehovah's Witnesses

No information will be revealed in research reports which will lead to the identification of individuals or their congregation, and no identifying information will be provided to any researcher or institution, including Jehovah's Witnesses, without your prior written
permission.

This information will be collected and stored for as long as they are useful for research purposes, or until you contact us to withdraw your permission. You can do this at any time by emailing Dr Siobhan McAndrew, Honorary Senior Lecturer at University of Sheffield, at s.mcandrew@sheffield.ac.uk.

If you are happy, we can proceed with the survey.

Prev Next

Introduction

First, we would like to check whether you are eligible to take the survey.

Are you aged 18 or over, or are you below the age of 18?

- ◯ Yes, I am aged 18 or over
- ◯ I am not aged 18 yet

Are you an active publisher, whether baptized or unbaptized, in a congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses based in Canada?

- ◯ Yes, I am a publisher in a congregation based in Canada
- ◯ No, I am not a publisher in a congregation based in Canada

Do you accept the collection of information on the personal opinions, beliefs, attitudes and behaviours of Jehovah's Witnesses?

- ◯ Yes, I accept
- ◯ No, I do not accept

The following is included to check whether you are paying attention to the survey.

To show us that you are paying attention, please select ‘None of the above’ as your answer to this question.

- ◯ Strong
- ◯ Indifferent
- ◯ Weak
- ◯ Hostile
- ◯ None of the above

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Introduction

We can now proceed with the survey. We would like to ask you some questions about your age and gender. Are you male or female?

- ◯ Male
- ◯ Female
- ◯ I would prefer not to say

And in what year were you born?

Please read the questions carefully, answering as sincerely and openly as you can.

Listed below are a few statements about your relationships with others. How much is each statement true or false for you?

	Definitely true	Mostly true	Don't know	Mostly false	Definitely false
I am always courteous, even to people who are disagreeable	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
There have been occasions when I took	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

	Definitely true	Mostly true	Don't know	Mostly false	Definitely false
advantage of someone					
I sometimes try to get even rather than forgive and forget	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I sometimes feel resentful when I don't get my way	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
No matter who I'm talking to, I'm always a good listener	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

5%

Prev Next

Spirituality and Religion

We would now like to ask some questions about the place of religion and spirituality in your life.

Please respond to each of the statements below by choosing the response that most closely describes the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Slightly disagree	Slightly agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
My spirituality gives me a feeling of fulfilment	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I maintain an inner awareness of Jehovah's presence in my life	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Even when I experience problems, I can find a spiritual peace within	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I try to strengthen my relationship with Jehovah	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Maintaining my spirituality is a priority for me	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Jehovah helps me to rise above my	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Slightly disagree	Slightly agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
immediate circumstances							
My spirituality helps me to understand my life's purpose	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I experience a deep friendship with Jehovah	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

6%

Prev Next

Spirituality and Religion

Next, we will ask you some questions about your religious beliefs. We would like to know what you honestly believe, even if you would not share these thoughts with others.

Please indicate which statement below comes **closest** to expressing what you believe about Jehovah God:

- ◯ I don't believe in God
- ◯ I don't know whether there is a God and I don't believe there is any way to find out
- ◯ I don't believe in a personal God, but I do believe in a Higher Power of some kind
- ◯ I find myself believing in God some of the time, but not at others
- ◯ While I have doubts, I feel that I do believe in God
- ◯ I know God really exists and I have no doubts about it
- ◯ Don’t know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Which of these statements comes closest to describing your feelings about the Bible?

- ◯ The Bible is the actual word of God and it is to be taken literally, word for word

- ◯ The Bible is the inspired word of God but not everything should be taken literally, word for word
- ◯ The Bible is an ancient book of fables, legends, history, and moral precepts recorded by man
- ◯ This does not apply to me
- ◯ Can't choose

Which best describes you at present in your congregation?

- ◯ I am a baptized publisher
- ◯ I am an unbaptized publisher
- ◯ Neither of the above
- ◯ I would prefer not to say

Which of the following most closely describes how you became one of Jehovah's Witnesses?

- ◯ I have been part of the Jehovah's Witness community since childhood
- ◯ I was not raised as one of Jehovah's Witnesses - I became one as an adult
- ◯ Other
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Becoming a Witness

What made you decide to explore the religion of Jehovah's Witnesses? Please select all that apply.

- [ ] I read the printed literature or saw the official website of Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] Someone I had not met before visited my house or place of work to share their message
- [ ] A relative, friend or acquaintance introduced me to the religion of Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] I heard or read about Jehovah's Witnesses in a book or through popular media
- [ ] I saw Jehovah's Witnesses in their public ministry and became curious
- [ ] Someone I knew spoke positively about Jehovah's Witnesses, and I wanted to find out more
- [ ] Someone I knew spoke negatively about Jehovah's Witnesses, and I wanted to find out more
- [ ] None of the above
- [ ] Don't know

Prev Next

Final thanks

We have now reached the end of the survey.

Your responses will enrich understanding of the motivations, attitudes and perceptions of Jehovah's Witnesses around the world.

Thank you for your time and attention!

100%

Prev Done

Becoming a Witness

And thinking back to the time when you decided to become one of Jehovah's Witnesses, how much do you agree or disagree that the following describes your experience?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
I had to renounce my family to become one of Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
It was my own decision to become one of Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Jehovah's Witnesses acted kindly mainly to convert me	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I had to show a lot of commitment before I could become one of Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Jehovah's Witnesses pressured me to be baptized	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

9%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Becoming a Witness

To what extent do you agree or not agree with the following statements describing studying the Bible with Jehovah's Witnesses?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
I felt pressure to believe what the Witnesses teach	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I could share my doubts and ask questions of a Jehovah's Witness	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I felt that Jehovah's Witnesses were trying to control me	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I found Bible study made me a better person	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Religious identity

How strongly do you agree or disagree that being one of Jehovah's Witnesses is an important part of how you see yourself?

- ◯ Strongly disagree
- ◯ Disagree
- ◯ Somewhat disagree
- ◯ Neither agree nor disagree
- ◯ Somewhat agree
- ◯ Agree
- ◯ Strongly agree
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

13%

Prev Next

Religious identity

How important is religion in your life – very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

- ◯ Not at all important
- ◯ Not too important
- ◯ Somewhat important
- ◯ Very important
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

People vary in their degree of commitment to religion. Some have doubts or are less active, and others are highly engaged. On a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 is not committed at all, 3 is average and 5 is highly committed, where would you place your commitment to being one of Jehovah's Witnesses?

- ◯ 1 - Not committed at all
- ◯ 2 - Not very committed
- ◯ 3 - Averagely committed
- ◯ 4 - Moderately committed
- ◯ 5 - Highly committed
- ◯ Don't know

◯ Prefer not to say

14%

Prev Next

Religious motivations

We would now like to ask some questions about your religious motivations.

Please think about each of the statements below carefully. Does the attitude or behaviour described in the statement apply to you?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know	Prefer not to say
My whole approach to life is based on my religion	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
My religion is important because it answers many questions about the meaning of life	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I enjoy reading about my religion	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
It is important to me to spend time in private thought	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know	Prefer not to say
and prayer							
What religion offers me most is comfort in times of trouble and sorrow	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I pray mainly to gain relief and protection	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I go to the Kingdom Hall mainly because I enjoy seeing people I know there	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

15%

Prev Next

Religious upbringing and practice

We will now ask you some questions about religion in your family.

What was your **mother's religion** when you were a young child?

- ◯ Jehovah's Witness
- ◯ Protestant
- ◯ Catholic
- ◯ Other Christian
- ◯ Buddhist or other Eastern Religion
- ◯ Muslim
- ◯ Other religion, not Christian
- ◯ No religion
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

And what was your **father's religion** when you were a young child?

- ◯ Jehovah's Witness
- ◯ Protestant
- ◯ Catholic
- ◯ Other Christian
- ◯ Buddhist or other Eastern religion
- ◯ Muslim
- ◯ Other religion, not Christian
- ◯ No religion
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

15%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Religious upbringing and practice

When you were a child, how often did your **mother** attend religious services for worship?

- ◯ Never
- ◯ Less than once a year
- ◯ About once or twice a year
- ◯ Several times a year
- ◯ About once a month
- ◯ 2-3 times a month
- ◯ Nearly every week
- ◯ Every week
- ◯ Several times a week
- ◯ I had no mother, or my mother was not present
- ◯ I can't remember

When you were a child, how often did your **father** attend religious services for worship?

- ◯ Never
- ◯ Less than once a year
- ◯ About once or twice a year
- ◯ Several times a year
- ◯ Nearly every week
- ◯ Every week
- ◯ Several times a week
- ◯ I had no father, or my father was not present

- ◯ About once a month
- ◯ I can't remember
- ◯ 2-3 times a month

And what about when you were around 11 or 12, how often did you attend religious services for worship then?

- ◯ Never
- ◯ 2-3 times a month
- ◯ Less than once a year
- ◯ Nearly every week
- ◯ About once or twice a year
- ◯ Every week
- ◯ Several times a year
- ◯ Several times a week
- ◯ About once a month
- ◯ I can't remember

Some cultures distinguish between 'immediate' family—meaning your parents, spouse, and children who might live with you—and 'extended' family, such as adult siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins who live elsewhere.

Thinking now about your **extended** family, how many of them are also Jehovah's Witnesses?

- ◯ All of them
- ◯ None of them
- ◯ Most of them
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Some of them
- ◯ Prefer not to say

17%

Prev Next

Religious upbringing and practice

What is your current relationship status?

- ◯ Married
- ◯ Living with a partner, but not married
- ◯ Divorced
- ◯ Separated
- ◯ Widowed
- ◯ Single - never married
- ◯ Other
- ◯ Prefer not to say

18%

Prev Next

Religious upbringing and practice

What is your spouse's religion?

- ◯ Jehovah's Witness
- ◯ Protestant
- ◯ Catholic
- ◯ Other Christian
- ◯ Buddhist or other Eastern religion
- ◯ Muslim
- ◯ Other religion, not Christian
- ◯ No religion
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

19%

Prev Next

Has your spouse been baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

20%

Prev Next

Religious upbringing and practice

People may practise their religion in different ways. Outside of attending meetings for worship, how often do you read the Bible?

- ◯ Several times a day
- ◯ Once a day
- ◯ A few times a week
- ◯ Once a week
- ◯ A few times a month
- ◯ Once a month
- ◯ Seldom
- ◯ Never
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

And about how often do you pray?

- ◯ Several times a day
- ◯ Once a day
- ◯ A few times a week
- ◯ Once a week
- ◯ A few times a month
- ◯ Once a month
- ◯ Seldom
- ◯ Never
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

How often do you attend meetings for worship at a Kingdom Hall or remotely on Zoom?

- ◯ Once a day
- ◯ A few times a week
- ◯ Once a week
- ◯ A few times a month
- ◯ Once a month
- ◯ Seldom
- ◯ Never
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Besides attending meetings for worship, how often do you take part in the ministry or other activities organised by the congregation?

- ◯ Several times a day
- ◯ Once a day
- ◯ A few times a week
- ◯ Once a week
- ◯ A few times a month
- ◯ Once a month
- ◯ Seldom
- ◯ Never
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Prev Next

Religious upbringing and practice

And how often does your **spouse or partner** attend meetings for worship at a Kingdom Hall or remotely on Zoom?

- ◯ Once a day
- ◯ A few times a week
- ◯ Once a week
- ◯ A few times a month
- ◯ Once a month
- ◯ Seldom
- ◯ Never
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Prev Next

Religious upbringing and practice

Do you have any children?

- ◯ No, I do not have any children
- ◯ Yes, I have one child
- ◯ Yes, I have two or more children
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

25%

Prev Next

Religious upbringing and practice

How many children do you have aged **under 18**?

- ◯ 0
- ◯ 1
- ◯ 2
- ◯ 3
- ◯ 4
- ◯ 5

More than 5 - write in:

How many children do you have aged **18 or over**?

- ◯ 0
- ◯ 1
- ◯ 2
- ◯ 3
- ◯ 4
- ◯ 5

More than 5 - write in:

How many of your children have ever been baptized as Jehovah's Witnesses? Enter as a number below.

And how many of your children are currently active, baptized Jehovah's Witnesses? Enter as a number below.

25%

Prev Next

Religious upbringing and practice

Now, thinking of your child, or your eldest child if you have more than one. Is this child male or female?

- ◯ Male
- ◯ Female
- ◯ Prefer not to say

And how old is this child, or eldest child? Enter the age in years below:

Has this child been baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

If yes, in what year was this child baptized as one of Jehovah’s Witnesses?

And how often does this child attend meetings for worship at a Kingdom Hall, or remotely on Zoom?

- ◯ Once a day
- ◯ A few times a week
- ◯ Once a week
- ◯ A few times a month
- ◯ Once a month
- ◯ Seldom
- ◯ Never
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Religious upbringing and practice

Some take time at home for the family or household to worship together as a group or for personal Bible study. How often do you usually take part in family worship or personal Bible study at home?

- ◯ Never
- ◯ Seldom
- ◯ Once a month
- ◯ A few times a month
- ◯ Once a week
- ◯ A few times a week
- ◯ Once a day
- ◯ Several times a day
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

For family worship or personal study, which of the following have you done in the last year?

	Yes	No	Don't know or can't remember
Read the Bible or Bible literature aloud	◯	◯	◯
Learned about Bible characters	◯	◯	◯
Acted out Bible events	◯	◯	◯

	Yes	No	Don't know or can't remember
Used Bible maps, pictures, or timelines	◯	◯	◯
Listened to or learned songs	◯	◯	◯
Researched topics of interest	◯	◯	◯
Invited others to join private worship at home	◯	◯	◯
Prepared comments to give at religious meetings	◯	◯	◯

27%

Prev Next

Religious upbringing and practice

Did you attend the most recent memorial of Christ's death?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Don't know or can't remember
- ◯ Prefer not to say

28%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Religious upbringing and practice

What volunteer role or roles in the organisation of Jehovah's Witnesses do you have? Choose everything that applies to you.

	Yes	No	Don't know	Prefer not to say	Does not apply
I am a regular auxiliary pioneer and/or do other part-time service	○	○	○	○	○
I am a regular pioneer and/or do other full-time service	○	○	○	○	○
I am a special pioneer	○	○	○	○	○
I am a ministerial servant	○	○	○	○	○
I am an elder	○	○	○	○	○

29%

Prev Next

Religious involvement and effects

From this list, what **initially** attracted you to Jehovah's Witnesses? Please choose up to **three** reasons.

- [ ] I wanted to learn more about the Bible
- [ ] I was attracted to the logic of the main teachings
- [ ] I was attracted to the clear moral guidelines
- [ ] I wanted to make better life choices
- [ ] I was attracted to the position of non-violence
- [ ] I had family who were Witnesses
- [ ] I wanted to be closer to God
- [ ] I wanted to receive help during a difficult time in my life
- [ ] I wanted hope for the future
- [ ] I wanted to receive material support from the Witnesses
- [ ] I felt accepted by the Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] I was attracted by the goodhearted qualities of Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] None of the above
- [ ] I would prefer not to answer

30%

Prev

Next

Religious involvement and effects

Becoming one of Jehovah's Witnesses may have had impacts on you and your family life. Thinking about your life now compared to before you became a baptized Witness, how has becoming a baptized Witness affected each of the following?

	Made it a lot better	Made it a little better	No change	Made it a little worse	Made it a lot worse	Does not apply
Parenting, if you have a child	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
How family members get along with each other	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Your feelings of anxiety or sadness	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Your anger, or getting into arguments	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Spending time doing fun things with family, friends and others	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Avoiding harmful	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

	Made it a lot better	Made it a little better	No change	Made it a little worse	Made it a lot worse	Does not apply
habits such as smoking, alcohol use or drug use						
How you manage your working conditions	○	○	○	○	○	○
How you manage your income	○	○	○	○	○	○
Your ability to live within your financial means	○	○	○	○	○	○

University of Sheffield

Religious involvement and effects

In your opinion, compared to the time **before** you became a baptized Witness, how would you rate your current relationships?

	Much worse	Slightly worse	Not good before, but no real change	Good before, and no real change	Slightly better	Much better	Don't know or does not apply	Prefer not to say
Relationships with your parents	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Relationships with close family members	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Relationships with other family members	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Relationships with close friends	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Relationships with acquaintances such as neighbours, people at work or schoolmates	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Relationships with those you have hurt or offended in the past	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Much worse	Slightly worse	Not good before, but no real change	Good before, and no real change	Slightly better	Much better	Don't know or does not apply	Prefer not to say
Relationships with those who have hurt or offended you in the past	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

People choose to remain in a religion for different reasons. From this list, what attracts you **at present** to Jehovah's Witnesses? Choose up to **three** reasons.

- [ ] I want to learn more about the Bible
- [ ] I am attracted to the logic of the main teachings
- [ ] I am attracted to the clear moral guidelines
- [ ] I want to make better life choices
- [ ] I am attracted to the position of non-violence
- [ ] I have family who are Witnesses
- [ ] I want to be closer to God
- [ ] I want to receive help during a difficult time in my life
- [ ] I want hope for the future
- [ ] I want to receive material support from the Witnesses
- [ ] I feel accepted by the Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] I am attracted by the goodhearted qualities of Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] None of the above
- [ ] Prefer not to answer

32%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Religious involvement and effects

Which of the following schools have you ever attended?

	Yes, I have attended	No, I have not attended	Don't know	Prefer not to say
School for Congregation Elders	◯	◯	◯	◯
Kingdom Ministry School	◯	◯	◯	◯
Pioneer Service School	◯	◯	◯	◯
School for Kingdom Evangelizers	◯	◯	◯	◯

33%

Prev Next

Religious involvement and effects

Now, consider other forms of religious service, such as pastoral visits, visiting patients in hospitals, disaster relief, Kingdom Hall maintenance or construction, and other volunteer activities.

In the last **four weeks**, approximately how many hours have you spent on other forms of religious service? Enter the number of hours below.

In the past year, did you help others in any of the following ways? Please select all that apply.

- [ ] Emotional encouragement
- [ ] Spiritual encouragement
- [ ] Personal gift or favour
- [ ] Material assistance - for example, giving food or clothing
- [ ] Assistance with housing
- [ ] Physical assistance - for example, helping with shopping, moving house, housework or repairs
- [ ] Assist with daily activities such as cooking, feeding, dressing, or bathing
- [ ] Hospital or home visits

- [ ] Financial assistance
- [ ] Literacy help to read or write
- [ ] Disaster relief
- [ ] None of the above

Now, thinking of those who are **not** Jehovah's Witnesses. In the last **four weeks**, which types of people who are **not** Jehovah's Witnesses did you help in practical ways, other than by sharing your beliefs? Please select all that apply.

- [ ] I helped a relative
- [ ] I helped a friend
- [ ] I helped a neighbour
- [ ] I helped a schoolmate or work colleague
- [ ] I helped a stranger
- [ ] I helped a person who I met through the ministry
- [ ] I helped a refugee or immigrant
- [ ] I helped another type of person
- [ ] None of the above

University of Sheffield

Religious involvement and effects

In the past **twelve months**, which types of ministry have you done? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Door-to-door visits
- ☐ Letter-writing
- ☐ Telephone ministry
- ☐ Literature carts or displays
- ☐ Prison ministry
- ☐ Business ministry
- ☐ Harbour witnessing
- ☐ Teaching Bible study
- ☐ Foreign language ministry
- ☐ Informal ministry
- ☐ Other types of ministry
- ☐ None of the above
- ☐ I would prefer not to say

When you think about the ministry, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
The ministry brings me satisfaction	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
The ministry does not seem worthwhile	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
The elders require everyone to participate in the door-to-door ministry	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
To reach those who are not religious, using social media would be better than talking to them in person	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
In the ministry, I get to know those in the congregation better	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I resent the time we are expected to spend in the ministry	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
The ministry is an expression of my loyalty to God	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
God is important to me and I'd like others to know about Him too	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
The ministry is a way to help people with their problems today	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
The ministry helps save lives in the future	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I worry about what people will say to me in the ministry	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

35%

Prev Next

Religious challenges

Now we want to find out more about situations when someone may have stopped active participation with the congregation, and later returned to active association with Jehovah's Witnesses. We would be grateful if you could answer honestly.

Since your baptism, have you ever stopped active participation with the congregation because of inactivity, or removal or disassociation from the congregation?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

35%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Religious challenges

About how long were you away from the congregation? If you left and returned more than once, reply according to the most recent time.

- ◯ Less than a year
- ◯ 1-2 years
- ◯ 3-5 years
- ◯ 6-10 years
- ◯ More than 10 years
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

After being apart from the congregation for a period of time, approximately in what year did you resume activity as one of Jehovah's Witnesses?

36%

Prev Next

Religious challenges

Some people's actions or attitudes toward Jehovah's Witnesses may change when not part of the congregation. How far are the following true of your experience?

	Very true	Mostly true	Somewhat true	Not at all true	Does not apply	Don't know	Prefer not to say
I stopped praying	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I stopped reading the Bible	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I still believed Jehovah's Witnesses' main teachings	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I felt I was not good enough to be one of Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I wanted to experience a different way of life	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I stayed away because of my personal conduct	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I had friends with negative views of	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Very true	Mostly true	Somewhat true	Not at all true	Does not apply	Don't know	Prefer not to say
Jehovah's Witnesses							
I joined online groups that criticised Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I started distancing myself from those in the congregation before I left	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I continued attending meetings at the Kingdom Hall although I was less active in the congregation	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I joined another religion for a time	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I attended another place of worship for a time, without joining	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I explored other spiritual practices for a time, without following any particular religion	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

37%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Religious challenges

While away from the congregation, did your relationships become closer, more distant, or stay the same with the following people?

	Much more distant	Slightly more distant	Not close before, and no real change	Close before, and no real change	Slightly closer	Much closer	Does not apply	Don't know	Pre not sa
People in the congregation	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
People you worked or studied with	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Friends who were Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Friends who were not Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Family members who were Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Family members who were not Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Prev Next

Religious challenges

And thinking of the time when you were not part of the congregation, how often did congregants interact with you in the following ways?

	Never	Once in a while	Sometimes	Often	Always	Does not apply	Prefer not to say
They acknowledged me with a non-verbal gesture, such as a nod, brief eye contact, or holding the door for me	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
They avoided making eye contact	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
They did not include me in conversations	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
They spoke with me briefly	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Their facial expressions were warm	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Their facial expressions were neutral	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Their facial expressions were critical	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

Prev Next

Religious challenges

Now, thinking about your motivations to return. How important were the following as motivations for you to resume association with Jehovah's Witnesses?

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know	Prefer not to say	Not applica
I wanted a closer relationship with God	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I missed association with family	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I missed association with friends in the congregation	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I decided the Witness life was a better way	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Witnesses who were family members encouraged me to return	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Witnesses outside my family encouraged me to return	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Congregation elders	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know	Prefer not to say	Not applica
encouraged me to return							
I needed support from the community at that point in my life	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I felt happier when I was one of Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I realised the seriousness of my actions and wanted to change	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

40%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Religious challenges

People can stop taking part in a religion in different ways. Which of the following **best** describes your experience, if any? Select **one**.

- [ ] I stopped attending meetings
- [ ] I stopped participating in the organised public ministry
- [ ] I was removed from the congregation
- [ ] I formally notified the elders that I did not wish to be known as one of Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] None of the above
- [ ] Prefer not to answer

41%

Prev Next

Religious challenges

You have indicated that you experienced removal or disassociation from the congregation in the past.

This next section contains a list of statements that relate to your feelings about your interactions with members of your religious group during this period. For each statement, please choose the response that best indicates how often you had this experience during this period.

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always	Does not apply	Prefer not to say
Others in my congregation ignored me	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Others in my congregation left the area when I entered the Kingdom Hall	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I noticed others would not look at me	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Others refused to talk to me at the Kingdom Hall	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I was included in conversations at the Kingdom Hall	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

After you returned to the congregation, how far do the following describe your interactions with Jehovah's Witnesses?

	Very true	Mostly true	Somewhat true	Not at all true	Do not remember	Prefer not to say
The Witnesses warmly welcomed me	○	○	○	○	○	○
The Witnesses remained distant from me	○	○	○	○	○	○
The Witnesses included me as part of the congregation again	○	○	○	○	○	○
The Witnesses took a long time before they accepted me again into the congregation	○	○	○	○	○	○

Prev Next

Religious challenges

Do you currently live, or have you ever lived, in the same home with someone in your family - such as a parent, spouse, child, or sibling - who was removed or disassociated from the congregation?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

43%

Prev Next

Religious challenges

How far do the following describe your relationship with your family member who was removed or disassociated? If there were more than one family member, then answer about your relationship with the person most recently removed or disassociated.

	Very true	Mostly true	Somewhat true	Not at all true	Don't know	Don't remember	Prefer not to say
We had less in common to talk about or do together	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
We still showed that we care about one another	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I tried to act normally but my family member seemed uncomfortable around me	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
My family member wanted little or nothing to do with me	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I continued caring for my family member's needs	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I tried not to let my	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Very true	Mostly true	Somewhat true	Not at all true	Don't know	Don't remember	Prefer not to say
disappointment in my family member's behaviour dominate our relationship							

Prev Next

Religious challenges

Thinking back to the last time you encountered a person who was removed or disassociated from the congregation, did you interact with them?

- ◯ Yes, I interacted with them
- ◯ No, I did not interact with them
- ◯ Don't know or cannot remember
- ◯ Prefer not to say

45%

Prev Next

Religious challenges

Why did you **choose to interact** with the person who was removed or disassociated from the congregation? For the following statements, tell us if this was a reason, or if this was not a reason.

	Yes - this was a reason	No - this was not a reason	Does not apply	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
We lived in the same house, so we had regular dealings with each other	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
We were related and had family matters to discuss	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
We were related and had regular dealings with each other, though we did not live in the same house	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
We were close friends	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I wanted to say just a few words to be polite	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

	Yes - this was a reason	No - this was not a reason	Does not apply	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
I wanted to help the person come back to the congregation	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
The person was in distress and needed help	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I did not agree with the elders' decision	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I felt it would be mean or unkind to ignore the person	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I believed it was what Jehovah wanted me to do	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

46%

Prev Next

Religious challenges

Why did you choose **not to interact** with the person who was removed or disassociated from the congregation? For the following statements, tell us if this was a reason, or if this was not a reason.

	Yes - this was a reason	No - this was not a reason	Does not apply	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
I wanted to respect the elders' decision	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I didn't want trouble from the elders	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I wanted to follow the scripture about not greeting the person	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I knew for a fact that the person was doing bad things	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I heard the person was doing bad things	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

	Yes - this was a reason	No - this was not a reason	Does not apply	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
I didn’t want to get into a debate about their situation	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I wanted to make the person feel pain or guilt	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I hoped the person would miss my friendship and want to come back	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I didn’t want to be influenced by the person’s bad attitude	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
I believe it is what Jehovah wanted me to do	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

Religious challenges

With persons who have been removed from the congregation, how important are the following reasons for how you choose to interact with them?

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not important at all	Does not apply	Don't know	Prefer not to say
I should follow the elders' decision	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I do not want the person to think I approve of serious wrongdoing	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I want to make the person feel pain or shame	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I want my interactions to help the person to come back	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I believe that limiting interaction is right according to Bible principles	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
It depends on who is	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not important at all	Does not apply	Don't know	Prefer not to say
watching							
It depends on whether I have to deal with that person as a family member or workmate	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
It depends on the attitude and behaviour of the person	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

47%

Prev Next

Religious challenges

Considering the recent changes regarding persons who are removed from the congregation, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about how you will interact with such persons in the future?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Prefer not to say
I will avoid interactions	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I will reach out to former Witnesses I know to encourage them to return to the congregation	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I will greet former Witnesses who come to the Kingdom Hall to worship	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
It will depend on the attitudes and behaviour of the person	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Prev Next

Medical perceptions

Thank you for your participation so far. We appreciate all the insight you are sharing with us. You are now about half-way through the survey!

We are now going to ask some questions on medical perceptions and attitudes.

With regard to medical care, how far do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Prefer not to say
Doctors care about their patients	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
People should seek medical treatment when they are sick	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
People must follow the doctor's instructions unconditionally	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
People should consult with different specialists before making an important decision about medical treatment	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
People should carefully	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Prefer not to say
choose which treatment they will accept and which they will refuse							
Parents have a responsibility to take care of their children's health and well-being	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Parents should seek the best treatment for their children	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
People should only pray to God to heal them	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

University of Sheffield

Medical perceptions

If your doctor recommended the following treatments, how likely or unlikely is it that you would accept them?

	Definitely not accept	Probably not accept	Probably accept	Definitely accept	It depends	Prefer not to say
Chemotherapy	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Kidney dialysis	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Radiotherapy	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Antidepressant medication	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Organ transplantation	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Vaccination	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Blood transfusion	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Transfusion alternatives	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

University of Sheffield

Medical perceptions

Do you carry a signed, witnessed statement that you do not want medical treatment using blood, such as a durable power of attorney (DPA)?

- ◯ Yes, I carry a statement of my medical care wishes at all times
- ◯ I have made a statement of my medical care wishes, though I do not carry it all the time
- ◯ I do not have a statement of my medical care wishes, though I intend to make one
- ◯ I do not have a statement of my medical care wishes, and do not plan to make one
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

51%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Medical perceptions

If your doctor recommended the following treatments **for your child**, how likely or unlikely is it that you would accept them?

	Definitely not accept	Probably not accept	Probably accept	Definitely accept	It depends	Prefer not to say
Chemotherapy	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Kidney dialysis	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Radiotherapy	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Antidepressant medication	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Organ transplantation	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Vaccination	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Blood transfusion	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Transfusion alternatives	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

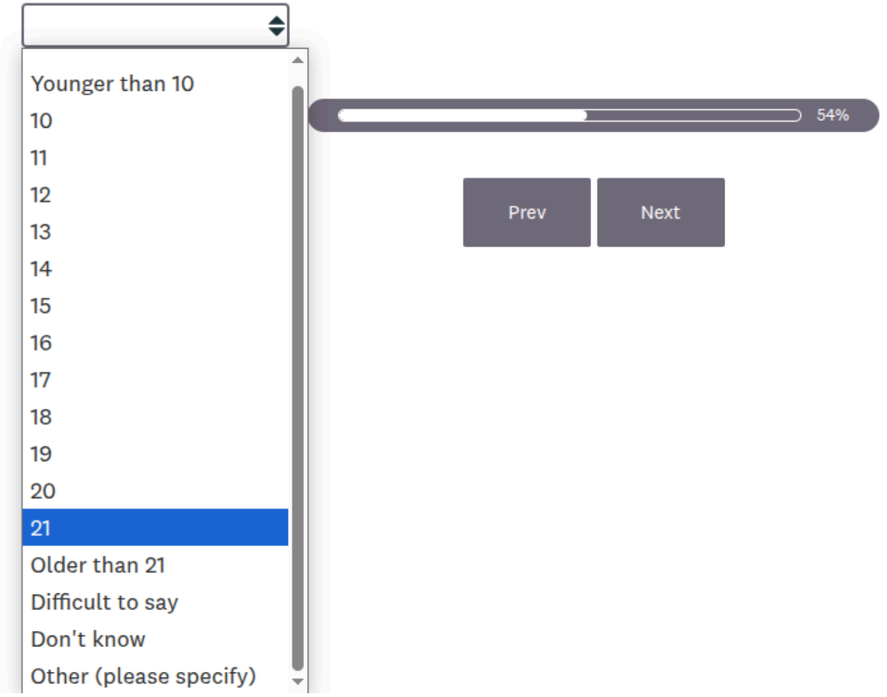
52%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Medical perceptions

Thinking of your eldest child in particular: at what age do you think this child will be or was old enough to make their own decisions about their own medical treatment?



Medical perceptions

If a doctor says that your child's life would be seriously in danger if a blood transfusion were not performed, would you give your consent to a blood transfusion, or would you not give your consent?

- ◯ I would definitely give my consent
- ◯ I would probably give my consent
- ◯ I would probably not give my consent
- ◯ I would definitely not give my consent
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

55%

Prev Next

In this situation, which of the following would affect your decision not to give consent for a blood transfusion for your child? Please select all that apply.

- [ ] I would want to respect his or her personal wishes
- [ ] I would follow my own conscience related to abstaining from blood
- [ ] I would seek a medical doctor who is expert in bloodless medical treatments
- [ ] I would doubt that the doctor could guarantee that a blood transfusion could save my child
- [ ] Don't know
- [ ] Prefer not to say

University of Sheffield

Social values

Thank you for your co-operation so far. We would now like to ask you some questions about social values, moral values and trust. In your opinion, do Jehovah's Witnesses as a global religion value men and women equally, value men better than women, or value women better than men?

- ◯ Value men better than women
- ◯ Value men and women equally
- ◯ Value women better than men
- ◯ Can't choose
- ◯ Don't know

56%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Social values

People can vary in their beliefs about work and family life. How do you feel about the following statements - do you agree with them, or do you disagree with them?

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
When jobs are scarce, men should have more right to a job than women	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
When jobs are scarce, employers should give priority to people of this country over immigrants	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
If a woman earns more money than her husband, it's almost certain to cause problems	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Homosexual couples are as good parents as other couples	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
It is a duty towards society to have children	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Adult children have the duty to take care of their elderly parents	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
People who don’t work turn lazy	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Work is a duty towards society	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Work should always come first, even if it means less spare time	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

57%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Social values

Below is a list of various groups of people. Could you please indicate any that you would not like to have as neighbours? Select all that apply.

- [ ] Drug addicts
- [ ] People of a different race to your own
- [ ] Immigrants or foreign workers
- [ ] Homosexuals
- [ ] Unmarried couples living together
- [ ] Heavy drinkers
- [ ] Don't know
- [ ] Prefer not to say

58%

Prev Next

Social values

And thinking about the role of women within the Jehovah's Witness community, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly	Don't know
Women are less valued than men in the congregation	○	○	○	○	○	○
Men and women are considered equally important among Jehovah's Witnesses	○	○	○	○	○	○
It bothers me that women are not allowed to be elders	○	○	○	○	○	○
Jehovah's Witness husbands and wives are taught to show mutual honour and respect	○	○	○	○	○	○
Jehovah's Witness men learn the importance of being	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly	Don't know
involved in housework and raising their children						
Family and cultural background can affect how some Witnesses view the roles of men and women	○	○	○	○	○	○

59%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Social values

What is your personal attitude towards members of the following religious groups?

	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Neither positive nor negative	Somewhat negative	Very negative	Can't choose	Don't know
Catholics	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Jehovah's Witnesses	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Jews	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Mormons	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Muslims	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Non-believers	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Atheists	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

60%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Social values

How important do you think it is that a person marries someone who shares their religious beliefs?

- ◯ Very important
- ◯ Somewhat important
- ◯ Not so important
- ◯ Not at all important
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Suppose a law was passed which requires you to go against your religious principles and teachings. Which of the following would you do?

- ◯ Definitely follow the law
- ◯ Probably follow the law
- ◯ Probably follow your religious principles
- ◯ Definitely follow your religious principles
- ◯ Can't choose

University of Sheffield

Social values

For Jehovah’s Witnesses, "trust" is placed in Jehovah. However, in the next questions, the word "trust" is used as a shorthand for your view of people in general.

Generally speaking, would you say that people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?

- ◯ People can almost always be trusted
- ◯ People can usually be trusted
- ◯ You usually can't be too careful in dealing with people
- ◯ You almost always can't be too careful in dealing with people
- ◯ Can't choose

62%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Social values

How often are the following statements true of you?

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually	Almost always	Always	Prefer not to say
I consult my family before making an important decision	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Even when I strongly disagree with my group members, I avoid an argument	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I enjoy working in situations involving competition with others	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I enjoy being unique and different from others	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I have the feeling that my relationships with others are more important than my own accomplishments	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
It is important for me to act as an independent person	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

To what degree are you concerned about the following situations?

	Very much	A good deal	Not much	Not at all	Don't know	Does not apply	Prefer not to say
Losing my job or not finding a job	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Poor prospects for my children	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Global climate change	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Current international conflict	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Crime in my neighbourhood	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

63%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Tolerance and rights

How much discrimination is there for or against the following groups in Canada?

	1 - A lot of discrimination in favour	2	3	4 - Neutral	5	6	7 - A lot of discrimination against	N/A or don't know
Catholics	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Jehovah's Witnesses	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Jews	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Mormons	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Muslims	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Non-believers	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Atheists	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

How much do you agree or disagree that your religious beliefs are tolerated by Canadian society?

- ◯ Strongly disagree
- ◯ Disagree
- ◯ Neither agree nor disagree
- ◯ Agree
- ◯ Strongly agree
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

And how much do you agree or disagree that in Canada today, religious liberty is being threatened?

- ◯ Strongly disagree
- ◯ Disgree
- ◯ Neither agree nor disagree
- ◯ Agree
- ◯ Strongly agree
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Prev Next

Tolerance and rights

Here are a few things that minority religions in different countries may experience. In the past twelve months, have you experienced any of the following? Please select all that apply.

- [ ] You were treated suspiciously because you are one of Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] You saw mainstream media coverage such as television or newspaper reports that you felt misrepresented Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] You saw content on social media such as YouTube, X, Facebook or TikTok that you felt misrepresented Jehovah’s Witnesses
- [ ] Someone outside the religious community expressed sympathy for you over negative media coverage about Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] Someone insulted you or called you an offensive name because you are one of Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] Non-Witness family or friends pressured you after they saw social media posts about Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] Members of your family have cut contact with you because you are one of Jehovah’s Witnesses
- [ ] You were excluded from a social group because you are one of Jehovah's

Witnesses

- [ ] You were physically threatened because you are one of Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] You were physically attacked because you are one of Jehovah’s Witnesses
- [ ] You were denied employment because you are one of Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] You were treated unfairly because of being one of Jehovah's Witnesses
- [ ] Your child experienced bullying for religious reasons
- [ ] Your child was physically attacked for religious reasons
- [ ] None of the above
- [ ] Prefer not to answer

Prev Next

Childhood and parenting

The next questions are about your experiences as a child growing up, and your own thoughts about raising children.

As a child growing up, in which of the following activities did you take part? Please select all that apply.

- [ ] Reading books
- [ ] Watching television
- [ ] Playing video games
- [ ] Playing sports
- [ ] Playing a musical instrument
- [ ] Participating in activities at school besides study
- [ ] Spending time with friends outside school
- [ ] Attending religious meetings
- [ ] Giving gifts to others at times other than holidays or birthdays
- [ ] Receiving gifts from others at times other than holidays or birthdays
- [ ] Celebrating birthdays
- [ ] Celebrating national holidays
- [ ] Celebrating traditional religious holidays
- [ ] Don't remember

☐ None of the above

65%

Prev Next

Childhood and parenting

When thinking back on your time growing up, how far do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Disagree strongly	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Agree strongly	Don't know
My parent(s) wanted me to have the same religious beliefs as they held	○	○	○	○	○	○
My parent(s) taught me to think carefully about my life decisions	○	○	○	○	○	○
My parent(s) tried to control my life choices	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Disagree strongly	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Agree strongly	Don't know
The values I learned from my parent(s) have helped me as an adult	○	○	○	○	○	○

66%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Childhood and parenting

How often do you think the following types of discipline are acceptable for parents to use with their children?

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Don't know	Prefer not to say
Raising your voice, yelling, or scolding	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Threatening to do something, but not following through	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Depriving them of a possession or privilege for a while, for example by grounding them	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Making a point of not speaking to the child	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Putting a child in a corner or in a room alone for a while	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Adding to their chores,	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Don't know	Prefer not to say
such as making the child clean a room or wash the dishes							
Hitting with force to cause physical pain	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Spanking with an open hand	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Praising a child when they do well	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Explaining why a behaviour is good or bad	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

67%

Prev Next

Childhood and parenting

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about universities in Canada? Rate your opinion on a scale of 0-10, with 0 being strongly disagree, 5 being neutral, and 10 being strongly agree.

	0 - Strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 - Strongly agree
Universities have an important role to play in addressing the key challenges the world faces	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Universities do not equip graduates with the skills they need to be successful in a career in Canada	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Universities do not equip graduates with the wisdom they need to lead fulfilling lives in Canada	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
More people should be	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	0 - Strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 - Strongly agree
able to access a university education in Canada											

Prev Next

Health and wellbeing

We will now move onto your health and wellbeing nowadays.

In general, how would you describe your health?

- ◯ Excellent
- ◯ Very good
- ◯ Good
- ◯ Fair
- ◯ Poor
- ◯ Don't know

69%

Prev Next

Health and wellbeing

For each of the following, please select a point on the scale where 0 is ‘not at all’ and 10 is ‘completely’.

	0 - Not at all	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 - Completely
Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Overall, to what extent do you feel the things you do in your life are worthwhile?	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Overall, how anxious did you feel yesterday?	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

And how often do you engage in physical exercise?

- ◯ I never engage in physical exercise
- ◯ At least once every other day
- ◯ Less often than once a month
- ◯ I exercise at least every day

- ◯ At least once a month
- ◯ At least once every two weeks
- ◯ At least once a week
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Health and wellbeing

How often do you drink alcohol nowadays, including drinks you make or brew at home?

- ◯ Every day
- ◯ 4-6 days a week
- ◯ 1-3 days a week
- ◯ Less often than once a week
- ◯ I don't drink at all
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

And how often do you smoke tobacco or e-cigarettes nowadays?

- ◯ Every day
- ◯ 4-6 days a week
- ◯ 1-3 days a week
- ◯ Less often than once a week
- ◯ I don't smoke at all
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Health and wellbeing

For each of the following, please indicate how important it is in your life.

	Very important	Rather important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know
Family	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Friends	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Leisure time	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Politics	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Work	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Religion	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

And all things considered, how satisfied are you with your relationships with family members?

- ◯ Completely satisfied
- ◯ Very satisfied
- ◯ Fairly satisfied
- ◯ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- ◯ Fairly dissatisfied
- ◯ Very dissatisfied
- ◯ Completely dissatisfied
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

72%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Health and wellbeing

And how far do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know	Prefer not to say
I think that there is meaning in what I do	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I have a task in life	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I feel part of a bigger whole	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I lead a fulfilled life	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I think my life has a deeper meaning	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Social networks

The next questions are about the friendships and relationships that support you in day-to-day life.

Thinking about your **closest** friends, how many are each of the following?

	All of my friends	Most of my friends	Some of my friends	Hardly any of my friends	None of my friends	Don't know	Not applicable
How many are also Jehovah's Witnesses?	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
How many have a different religion to you?	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
How many are much younger than you?	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
How many are much older than you?	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
How many are the same race or ethnicity as you?	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
How many earn roughly the same	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	All of my friends	Most of my friends	Some of my friends	Hardly any of my friends	None of my friends	Don't know	Not applicable
income as you?							
How many share your outlook on life?	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

74%

Prev Next

Social networks

When you think about those in your congregation, how strongly do you agree or disagree with each of the following?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know	Prefer not to say
If anything were to happen to me, I know I could count on my congregation	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
When I go through hard times, there are people in my congregation I can talk to	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
In my congregation, mutual support is an important custom	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
The elders in my congregation make efforts to integrate all its members and to make them stronger	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
In the event of an	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know	Prefer not to say
extreme situation such as a natural disaster or war, I know that I can count on my congregation to face the event and move forward							

75%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Social networks

The next questions are about how you feel about different aspects of your life. For each one, please indicate how often during the past **four weeks** you have felt that way. How often in the past **four weeks** have you felt that:

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Very often	Don't know
You lack companionship?	○	○	○	○	○	○
You are isolated from others?	○	○	○	○	○	○
You are left out?	○	○	○	○	○	○

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Social networks

In the past **twelve months**, did you or your family receive help from any of Jehovah's Witnesses in the following ways? Select all that apply.

- [ ] Emotional encouragement
- [ ] Spiritual encouragement
- [ ] Personal gift or favour
- [ ] Material assistance - for example, food or clothing
- [ ] Assistance with housing
- [ ] Financial assistance
- [ ] Physical assistance - for example, helping with shopping, moving house, housework or repairs
- [ ] Assistance with daily activities such as cooking, feeding, dressing, or bathing
- [ ] Hospital or home visits
- [ ] Literacy help to read or write
- [ ] Disaster relief
- [ ] None of the above
- [ ] Don't know
- [ ] Prefer not to say

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Civic attitudes

People learn what is going on in this country and the world from various sources. For each of the following sources, how often do you use them to obtain information?

	Several times a day	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Less than monthly	Never	Don't know
Newspapers, including their online editions	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Television news	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Radio news	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Email updates	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Internet sources	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Social media, such as Facebook, X, or TikTok	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Talking with friends or colleagues	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

77%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Civic attitudes

Now, consider some forms of civic and legal action that people can take. For each one, would you do this in future, or would you not do this in future?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Prefer not to say
Signing a petition	◯	◯	◯	◯
Attending a peaceful demonstration	◯	◯	◯	◯
Writing to government officials to protest religious discrimination	◯	◯	◯	◯
Writing to government officials about issues other than religious discrimination	◯	◯	◯	◯
Seeking legal remedies if I believe my human rights have been violated	◯	◯	◯	◯

78%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Civic attitudes

When elections take place, do you vote always, usually or never? Please tell us for each of the following types of election.

	Always	Usually	Never	Prefer not to say
Local elections	○	○	○	○
National elections	○	○	○	○

79%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Civic attitudes

You have said that you never vote. Which of the following applies to you? Select all that apply.

- [ ] I do not vote for religious reasons
- [ ] I do not vote because I do not take a side in political matters
- [ ] I have chosen not to register to vote
- [ ] I do not know how to vote
- [ ] I do not have the legal right to vote, even if I wanted to
- [ ] I do not vote for other reasons
- [ ] Don't know
- [ ] Prefer not to say

Prev Next

Civic attitudes

How far do you agree or disagree with the following statements about political and government matters?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
I want to help people in this country	○	○	○	○	○	○
I do not take sides in political matters	○	○	○	○	○	○
I am not willing to use weapons against others	○	○	○	○	○	○
I can best serve this country by behaving peacefully and paying my taxes	○	○	○	○	○	○
I choose not to participate in activities that physically harm others,	○	○	○	○	○	○

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
because I value human life						
I am willing to serve this country in ways other than military service	○	○	○	○	○	○

81%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Civic attitudes

People have different views about themselves and how they relate to the world. How close do you feel to each of the following?

	Very close	Close	Not very close	Not close at all	Don't know	Prefer not to say
Your village, town or city	○	○	○	○	○	○
Your country	○	○	○	○	○	○
Humankind as a whole	○	○	○	○	○	○

University of Sheffield

Demographics

Finally, we have a few questions about your social background and identity. Were you born in this country, or are you an immigrant to this country? Select one answer only.

- ◯ I was born in this country
- ◯ I moved to this country as a child
- ◯ I moved to this country as an adult
- ◯ Other (please specify)

And were your mother and father born in this country, or did they move to this country? Please answer for each of them separately.

	Born in this country	Moved to this country as a child	Moved to this country as an adult	Did not move to this country	Don't know	Prefer not to say
Your father	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Your mother	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

83%

Prev Next

Demographics

Are you a citizen of this country?

- ◯ Yes, I am a citizen of this country
- ◯ No, I am not a citizen of this country
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

85%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Demographics

Including yourself, how many people – including children – live here regularly as members of your household? Write the number of people below.

Do you live with your parents or your parents-in-law?

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes, I live with my own parent(s)
- ◯ Yes, I live with my parent(s)-in-law
- ◯ Yes, I live with both my own parent(s) and parent(s)-in-law
- ◯ Does not apply
- ◯ Prefer not to say

85%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Demographics

What is the highest educational level that you, your spouse, your mother and your father have completed? If you have no spouse, father or mother, choose 'not applicable'.

	No certificate, diploma or degree	High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	Non-apprenticeship trades certificate/diploma	Registered Apprenticeship or trades certificate/diploma	College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate/diploma	University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	Ba
Your own highest educational level	○	○	○	○	○	○	
Your spouse's highest educational level	○	○	○	○	○	○	
Your mother's highest education level	○	○	○	○	○	○	
Your father's highest education level	○	○	○	○	○	○	

86%

Prev Next

Demographics

Are you employed now, or are you not employed?

- ◯ Yes, I am in paid employment
- ◯ Yes, I am self-employed
- ◯ No, I am not in paid employment

87%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Demographics

Which best describes your working status?

- ◯ I work full-time - my main job is for 30 hours a week or more
- ◯ I work part-time - my main job is for less than 30 hours a week
- ◯ It varies too much to say

And about how many hours do you work a week? If you have more than one job, please write in the number of hours for the main job.

88%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Demographics

To which of the following occupational groups do you belong now, or did you belong in your last job if you are retired or not currently working? Select **one** of the following.

- ◯ Professional and technical - for example, doctor, teacher, engineer, artist, accountant, or nurse
- ◯ Higher administrative - for example, banker, executive in big business, higher government official, or union official
- ◯ Clerical - for example, secretary, clerk, office manager, civil servant or bookkeeper
- ◯ Sales - for example, sales manager, shop owner, shop assistant,
- ◯ Semi-skilled worker - for example, bricklayer, bus driver, cannery worker, carpenter, sheet metal worker, or baker
- ◯ Unskilled worker - for example, labourer, porter, unskilled factory worker, or cleaner
- ◯ Farm worker - for example, farm labourer or tractor driver
- ◯ Farm proprietor or farm manager
- ◯ I have never had a job
- ◯ Prefer not to say

insurance agent, or buyer

◯ Service worker - for example, restaurant owner, police officer, waitress, barber, or caretaker

◯ Skilled worker - for example, foreman, motor mechanic, printer, seamstress, tool and die maker, or electrician

Prev Next

Demographics

During the past year, which was your household's experience?

- ◯ We were able to make savings from our income
- ◯ We just managed to live within our income
- ◯ We had to spend some of our savings
- ◯ We had to spend our savings and also borrow money
- ◯ Don't know
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Among the following categories, which one best reflects the total income, before taxes, of all the members of your household in the past year?

- ◯ $19,999 or less
- ◯ Between $20,000 and $39,999
- ◯ Between $40,000 and $59,999
- ◯ Between $60,000 and $79,999
- ◯ Between $80,000 and $99,999
- ◯ $100,000 or more
- ◯ Don't know

◯ Prefer not to say

93%

Prev Next

What is your ethnic origin?

94%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Demographics

What type of town or city do you live in? If you live in more than one place, then give an answer for the place you consider your primary address.

- ◯ Capital city
- ◯ Regional centre
- ◯ District centre
- ◯ Another type of city or town - not a national, regional or district centre
- ◯ Village
- ◯ Isolated area outside a village or town

And do you live in a rural area, or urban area?

- ◯ Urban area - a city or a town
- ◯ Rural area - a village or outside a village

95%

Prev Next

University of Sheffield

Thank you for taking part in our survey. We would like to give you the opportunity to share your thoughts on the survey itself. On a scale of 0 to 10, how easy was this survey to complete?

- ◯ 0 - Extremely easy
- ◯ 1
- ◯ 2
- ◯ 3
- ◯ 4
- ◯ 5
- ◯ 6
- ◯ 7
- ◯ 8
- ◯ 9
- ◯ 10 - Extremely difficult
- ◯ Prefer not to say

95%

Prev Next

Finally, is there anything you think important to tell us, which we have not asked you about yet?

If so, please **tell us** in the box below.

This may include your thoughts about what being one of Jehovah's Witnesses means to you, if you are happy to share these thoughts.

You are also free to leave this blank if you prefer.

96%

Prev Next

Final consent information

The University of Sheffield may carry out more research on the attitudes, beliefs and practices of Jehovah's Witnesses in future. We may wish to ask you follow-up questions within the next 12 to 24 months.

If so, the interview would take about 30 minutes to complete.

Would you be willing to be contacted to take part in this research?

- ◯ Yes, I am willing to be recontacted
- ◯ No, I am not willing to be recontacted

97%

Prev Next

Final consent information

Thank you for indicating that you would be happy to be contacted. Please enter your full name below.

And please enter your email address below.

98%

Prev Next

Final consent information

Why would you like my email address?
We would like the opportunity to recontact people who take part in this survey to invite them to take part again in future surveys. The Jehovah's Witness community is worthy of detailed study. Information on how attitudes, beliefs and practices change over time is particularly valuable for understanding the community. Your email address will be treated as confidential, and given the same protections as your interview data. Your email address will only be used to contact you – it will not be published.

What will the information be used for?
The information will be used for social research purposes only. Your survey answers will allow researchers from universities and other qualified individuals to better understand your experiences and opinions.

Who will be able to access the information?
Data files including both your survey answers and your email address will only be available to the study team working within a secure computing environment on an encrypted server. The email addresses will be removed from the file containing survey answers at the earliest opportunity, and stored separately. At no point will any information that would allow you to be identified be made available to the public.

What will you do to keep my information safe?
All information we collect will be held in accordance with the United Kingdom Data

Protection Act 2018. To keep your information safe, researchers will only be able to access survey answers matched to your email address in a secure computing environment set up to protect this type of data. Only study team members who have gone through special training may access this information, and they will have to apply to do so.

What if I change my mind?
This information will be collected and stored for as long as they are useful for research purposes, or until you contact us to withdraw your permission. You can do this at any time by emailing us at s.mcandrew@sheffield.ac.uk.

You do not have to give a reason. You can then request that your email address is deleted, or your responses, or both sets of data if you wish.

Also, if you are contacted for future research, you can choose not to participate at that time if that is your wish.

Prev Next